

New Puppy Check-List

When buying a new puppy we often walk into a store and don't know where to start.

What are the essentials?

What do I need as the basics?

The following is a list of "What You Really Need".

Everything more than this is a bonus so spend your time and money on getting good quality items on this list and then spoil once puppy has settled in.

Bed - dogs do like the security of their own bed, somewhere they can go to and know they won't be disturbed. Find a Bed that can be used for winter and summer - MollyMutt have some great ideas.

Crate - buy one of these if you are going to crate train your puppy and/or will be travelling a great deal and need to get puppy dog used to one. The crate needs to be large enough so that your puppy can stand up, turn around, sit and lie down in it comfortably. If you are buying for puppy's whole life purchase a crate that will fit when they get older and pop a big cardboard box in it to take up room and make pup feel safe.

Collar and Leash - your puppy will grow quickly during his first few months so be prepared to buy a new collar at regular intervals - Rogz and Hamish McBeth have some great ideas.

Nametag - this is absolutely essential and I'd choose a plastic or metal one that can be engraved or encloses your puppy's name and your telephone number on it.

Food and Water Bowls - I've found that the best bowls are stainless steel ones with rubber bottoms or a second bowl that is non slip- You can't go past Gummi Pet. The advantage of these bowls is that they don't slide around the floor and are easy to keep clean. If your puppy scoffs it's food there are some great ones that have plastic in the middle to slow the pup down. Save the ceramic till they are older and wont knock it over.

Toys - to start with a good chew toy and a plush toy, for him to snuggle up to, are all you need in the first couple of weeks. Then it is a good idea to create a doggy toybox and only bring out a couple of toys at a time.

Grooming Tools & Shampoo – these need to be suitable to your dogs coat type and breed but in general you need a brush/rake, a comb, nail clippers/file & blunt nose scissors. Your Shampoo needs to be a sensitive skin or puppy range. This is where Pure Paws can help you out. Please feel free to email us or call in to ask our Qualified Groomers what is best for your dogs coat type and breed.